

## Message Text

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51

ACTION ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-25 NEA-10 ISO-00 INRE-00 SSO-00

NSCE-00 USIE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20

EB-11 COME-00 INT-08 TRSE-00 OMB-01 SCI-06 SCEM-02

CIEP-02 STR-08 FAA-00 IO-14 FPC-01 OPIC-12 AID-20

DRC-01 /214 W

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O P 211320Z DEC 73

FM AMEMBASSY PORT OF SPAIN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5880

INFO AMCONSUL BELIZE PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY BRIDGETOWN PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY CARACAS PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY GEORGETOWN PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY KINGSTON PRIORITY

USINT ALGIERS

AMEMBASSY BOGOTA

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY LAGOS

AMEMBASSY MEXICO CITY

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

AMEMBASSY QUITO

AMEMBASSY VIENNA

UNCLAS PORT OF SPAIN 1663

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR ENRG TD XL

SUBJECT: PRIME MINISTER WILLIAMS ADDRESSES THE NATION ON  
ENERGY CRISIS

REF: POS 1655 (NOTAL)

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1. THE FOLLOWING IS SUMMARY OF AIRGRAM REPORTING PRIME MINISTER ERIC WILLIAMS' DECEMBER 20 SPEECH ABOUT THE ENERGY CRISIS.

2. IGNORING RUMORS THAT THE GOTT MIGHT NATIONALIZE THE OIL INDUSTRY IN TRINIDAD OR TAKE OTHER MEASURES WHICH COULD RESULT IN DECREASED EXPORTS TO THE US, PRIME MINISTER WILLIAMS MERELY REAFFIRMED THE GOTT'S COMMITMENT TO MAINTAIN PREVIOUS LEVELS OF SUPPLY TO ITS NEIGHBORING CARIBBEAN STATES. HE ALSO HINTED THAT NEGOTIATIONS ARE UNDERWAY TO OBTAIN ARAB CRUDE FOR PROCESSING FOR SALE TO THE CARIBBEAN REGION, AGAINST A GUARANTEE THAT NONE OF THESE PRODUCES WILL REACH THE US MARKET. WILLIAMS SAID THAT THE GOTT-OWNED BRITISH WEST INDIAN AIRWAYS (BWIA) IS THE ONLY REGIONAL AIRLINE IMMUNE TO THE OIL CRISIS AND PLEDGED THAT IT WILL MAINTAIN THE FLOW OF TOURISTS TO THE CARIBBEAN NATIONS. HE ALSO ANNOUNCED THAT THE GOTT CABINET HAD ORDERED THAT NO EXTRA-REGIONAL AIRLINE MAY RECEIVE FUEL SUPPLIES OVER AND ABOVE ITS TRADITIONAL NEEDS AT TRINIDAD'S INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT. THE PRIME MINISTER EMPHASIZED THE GOTT'S INTENTION TO PARTICIPATE FULLY IN WORLD COUNCILS OF OIL EXPORTERS, AND HIGHLIGHTED TRINIDAD'S INCREASING PRODUCTION OF OIL AND PROMISING PROSPECTS FOR NATURAL GAS IN ADDITION TO THE PREVIOUS DAY'S CALL BY THE GOTT FOR BIDS ON VAST NEW PETROLEUM CONCESSIONS (SEPTEL). IN CLOSING, WILLIAMS SAID THAT HIGH-LEVEL GOTT OIL DELEGATIONS WILL SOON VISIT A NUMBER OF AFRICAN, NEAR EASTERN, AND LATIN AMERICA OIL PRODUCING COUNTRIES, APPARENTLY AS THE RESULT OF DIPLOMATIC INITIATIVES RECENTLY UNDERTAKEN BY HIS GOVERNMENT.

MARSHALL

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** PRIME MINISTER, PETROLEUM, SUPPLIES, PETROLEUM PRODUCTION, EXPORTS, SPEECHES, EMERGENCY PLANNING, RATIONING  
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**TAGS:** PFOR, ENRG, TD, XL  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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